

A N
APOLOGY

FOR THE *1st* *Butcher*

ARMY. *1029*

IN A

Short ESSAY

ON

Fortitude, &c.

Written by an OFFICER.

Enimvero Militiam ipsam, gravem, infructuosam; de-
vis in diem Assibus, Animam & Corpus æstimari.

TACITUS.

DUBLIN:

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A N

Apology, &c.

AMONG many Misfortunes to be deplored, during the late Reign of *Toryism*, nothing perhaps is like to produce worse Consequences to the present, and future Ages, than an impudent Attempt in the *venial* Scriblers of that Party to subvert some Principles in *Morality*, and *Notions of Virtue*, till then unquestion'd by all Mankind.

It became necessary for these Wretches (and their more wretched Patrons) to shake our *Reason*, corrupt our *Morals*, sink our *Courage*, and impose on our *Senses*: For while all these, or any of them, remain'd entire; they rightly judg'd it impossible for them to carry on their *Nonsensical*, as well as *Villanous*, Designs.

I am at a Loss to determine whether their Undertaking were more Audacious, or their Success more Astonishing. They were to attack Opinions fortify'd by the *Universal Consent* of almost all *Ages*, and all *People*; to deny *Positions* agreed in by *Heaven*, as well as *Christian Philosophers*; and to combat *Maxims* of such Prevalency, that they were chosen by the *Almighty Legislator* as the securest *Basis* of Christianity it self.

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To do by all Men, as we would have them do by us, was equally the Measure of Justice under *Pagan* and *Christian* Oeconomy ; to administer Equity impartially, to relieve the oppress'd, plead the Cause of the Orphan and Widow, religiously observe Promises, tho' to our own detriment, and to hazard Life or *private* Liberty, for that of the Publick, were thought indispenfible Duties ; and the Practice of them was as highly Applauded, as their Contraries were Decry'd, by the Common Voice of Mankind. So that I think it no rash Assertion to affirm, that even in the State of *Degeneracy* the World has long been gradually sliding into, even within a *very few* Years, it wou'd have been look'd on as the most flagitious Enterprize imaginable, to go about an open, formal, and peremptory Contradiction of these *Oracles of Reason*, on which the universal Good seem'd to stand safely and strongly supported.

Yet we have lived to see these *massy Columns* shaken, and almost overthrown, tho' the Ruin of *ALL* was to be the inevitable Consequence : But by the just Decree of Providence, the *Ponderous Fabrick* had, in its Fall, most surely crush'd the Sappers of its noble Foundation ; and tho' that have, by Miracle, escaped ; it is not impossible but some of the *tottering Pinnacles* may yet fall on the Heads of those who apply'd the destructive *Engines*, by which the whole was endanger'd.

It is not my present Design to arraign every Branch of the late Ministry's Conduct. That Province, I hope, is reserved for abler Heads, and a more convenient Place : It will be sufficient for me to Observe, That in Defiance of common Sense, and common Honesty, an *Infamous* and *Ruinous Separate Peace* was concluded without the Concurrence or Knowledge of our Allies, to whom we were bound by the most *solemn* Treaties

Treaties and strongest *Ties of Interest* : That the wisest and honestest Conduct in the World was vilified, the best Ministers traduced, our Enemies exhausted Forces were magnify'd, our own flourishing Condition represented as weak and languishing, our Faithful Allies accused of berraving us, while our implacable Enemies were trusted with the Disposal of all our Interests; and finally, that our Religion and happy Constitution were wilfully exposed to the Invasion of a Popish and Arbitrary Pretender.

This was the End to which all the execrable Arts of a pernicious Faction evidently tended. But tho' they succeeded beyond Imagination, yet the *Grand Project* was judged by themselves Impracticable, unless the Army could either be *Gained* or *Disgrac'd*. All possible Methods were therefore put in Practice to compass the first; which had at once cut the *Gordian Knot* of a stubborn Constitution, and made its Ruin sure. It was therefore extremely worth while to neglect no Means that might engage the Officers on their Side : But so just a Sense had these Gentlemen of their own Honour, so great a Regard to the Welfare of their Country, and so clear an Apprehension of these Men's wicked Designs, that they scorned all Offers on one Side, and Threats on the Other, bravely resolving, to hazard their Posts, (their only Maintenance) rather than lay violent Hands on a Constitution they had so often ventured their Lives to defend. Some few indeed (to their eternal Shame) *Deserted* their Brethren, and enter'd into the most Criminal Measures; but these, (it is to be hoped) may now meet with a due *Distinction*, tho' their whole Lives heretofore could never merit any; and *honest Men* have the Satisfaction of seeing them disposed of, as the *Honour* and *Safety* of the present Government require.

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The late *Managers* thus disappointed in their Hopes of corrupting the Army, endeavour'd in the next Place to divide it: And that was by encouraging the common Soldiers against their Officers, in order to weaken and disarm, if possible, these last; declared *Enemies*, and resolute Opposers of their darling Schemes. Every body remembers the prodigious Industry used to exasperate the private Men; and foment Complaints, vexatious Suits, Arrests, and Mutinies, to the utter Dissolution of all military Discipline, and good Government in the Army.

The *Stratagem* had at first some Success; and their invidious Assertions, that the Soldiers had been defrauded of their Pay, being generally belived; cast a blemish on the Officers: But when People begun to observe that these Complaints had their first Rise from the Scum of the Nation, a Crew of *Jail-Birds* forced upon the Army by the Civil Authority; and that tho' some few Officers might perhaps be too guilty of the Misdemeanors laid to their Charge, yet for the greater Number were entirely exempt from them; then this *Mine* also failed of its desired Execution, or rather recoil'd on those who set Fire to the Train.

The Attempts either to Gain or Divide the Military Men not answering Expectation, there was no Way left but to ruin them in the Opinion of the Nation. One would think this no easy Task, while the Memory of their unparallel'd Actions was still Fresh; But what Colours so gross, what Lies so palpable, as not to be imposed on *Home-spun Clowns*, and ignorant *October-Club-Men*? Always ready to murmur at any Thing that may give Occasion to Taxes, tho' never so moderate and necessary; and whose Arithmetick does not reach so far as to shew them, that 4, 6, 10, nay 15 Shillings in the Pound, were well given to save the Remainder, if the *Whole* be evidently in Danger.

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This Enterprize then, difficult as it seem'd, was yet undertaken by some of their *Ablest Pens*, and most *Eloquent Orators*, who to strike at the very Root of the Soldiers Reputation and Honour, Judged it Adviseable to depreciate *Fortitude* it self : And consequently all Exploits springing from that *Noble Stock*. And the more effectually to compass this *vile End*, Military Men were to be loaded with *Opprobrious Language*, their brightest Actions to be Redicul'd, their Courage, and other Material Virtues, brought into *Contempt*, the very Institution of an Army was to be made *Odiours*, and the Existence of it, (tho' a modreat one) represented as *Dangerous*, and *Expensive* to the Nation : And it soon became the *Cue* of the whole Faction, to rail at the *Behaviour*, envy the *Expences*, defame the *Manners*, and blacken the *Characters* of Gentlemen eminently Zealous in the Service of their Country, and upon that Principle, constant in opposing a *French Party* at Home.

It is impossible to write on any Subject ever so little relating to the past Administration, without being hurry'd on by an impetuous Zeal, against all their Proceedings. I endeavour, to the utmost of my Power, to curb this just Indignation ; but hope I may be forgiven if I have touched lightly on some Points which (tho' out of my Subject) I conceive necessary to lead me into my Intended *Vindication* of a Set of Men, who have shewn themselves strenuous Defenders of the *Nation's* and *Europe's* Liberties ; and as such have been aspersed by the implacable Enemies to both, and to every Thing that bears the *Venerable* Name of *Virtue*.

And since *Fortitude* it self, (the very *Basis* of a Soldier's Merit) has been made the Subject of *Ridicule*, both in Print, and in common Talk ; the Order of my Discourse requires that I shou'd begin with some Arguments

Arguments in Defence of this *Virtue*, as the *Foundation* on which many important *Actions* have been built; for if that be *defective*, the *Superstructure* must necessary fall to the Ground.

That *Fortitude* has not only a *Rank*, but holds a *Place* of *Dignity* among *Moral Virtues*, was never contested during the Space of almost *Fifty Centuries*, till within these four Years past. *Fear of Pain*, or *Death*, and consequently the *avoiding* them by any Means; is the *first*, most *natural*, and *strongest Impulse* in all living *Creatures*. It is perceptible, even before the *Operation* of *Reason*, in *Man*; or *what is likest to it*, in *Beasts*; and, no doubt, was implanted by *Providence* as necessary to the *Preservation* of our *Beings* or *Existence*.

A *Brave Contempt*, of what is so *dreadful*, cannot therefore be *natural*; but must be produced in us by some *Motive* stronger than the *Fear* of what we so *abhor*: And this is, a *Vast Desire* of *Honour* and *Love* of doing *Good*; which only some *noble* and *diffusive Minds* are *inspired* with.

— *Quis meliore luto finxit præcordia Titan.*

This seems, indeed, to be a *Ray* of the *Divinity*, imprinted for the *Good* of *Mankind* in those whose *Souls* are wound up to a higher *Pitch* than ordinary and influenced so as to grow enamour'd of *glorious Danger*, while it despises ignoble *Ease*, and *Safety* basely bought. This was antiently thought *Heroism*; and to bring the *Mind* of *Men* to this Bent, *Orators*, *Historians*, and *Poets* Employ'd their utmost *Efforts* in their several *Styles*: Nay, the celebrating worthy *Actions*, and transmitting the *Memory* of them to *Posterity*, in order to incite others to an *Imitation* of them, was what these *Eloquent Men* chiefly valued themselves

themselves upon ; ranking their own *Praises* far inferior to those due to the Performers of the noble *Exploits* that furnish them a *Theme*.

Nor can it be alledged that *Fortitude* is a barbarous *Virtue*, held in Esteem only by *Heathens*, ignorant of the True God ; since the Books of *Judges*, *Chronicles*, and some others of *sacred Writ*, are scarce any Thing more than *Records* Of *Atchievements* performed by the *Worthies* among God's *chosen People*. And if *universal Consent* has been looked upon as a strong Argument in Favour of some *Tenets* ; we shall find that also as remarkably on the side of the *Virtue* I endeavour to defend ; as it is evident to all who are vers'd in *History*, and in the *Accounts* we have of the *Indians*, especially the *Americans*, among whom, we are persuaded that, a very antient Esteem for *Valour* has produced amazing Instances of their Excellency in the Practice of it. This Authority is the stronger, because it cannot be said that they imbibed this *Error* (as tis call'd) by their Conversation with *Us*, or that we learnt it of *Them*, our Communication together being of so late a Date.

But I need not lay too great Stresses on *Universal Consent* : Mankind has often, and will to the World's End, agree in very gross Mistakes ; and therefore nothing ought indeed to be received, but what subsists on solid Reason. I do not believe my Argument will suffer any Disadvantage by submitting to this *Test*, nor ought I to be afraid to enter into the Causes why *Fortitude* claims a sort of *Præminence* among other *Moral Virtues*. I know of none that dare vye or enter into Comparison with it but *Justice* ; under which Head I particularly comprehend, and have regard to the truly venerable Art of framing Laws, governing with *Equity*, and restraining *Vice*. But surely, among *Virtues*, the Precedence is most justly due to that

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without which the others cannot subsist. *Solon* and *Lycurgus* had ranked Mankind under admirable Regulations in vain, had there been no *Themistocles*, no *Agesilaus*, no *Epaminondas*, to protect Constitutions formed with the utmost Foresight and Wisdom.

A famous Orator, whose Talent lay another way, has indeed seem'd to decide in favour of the *Pacifick Arts*.

— *Cedant Arma togæ.* —

These Arts have, no doubt, their Merit, since the Defence of them is the *Motive* that engages the True Hero on their Side. We will not therefore enter into frivolous Dispute about *Precedency* (fitter for those whose Excellency lies in Disputation) but only Remark, that the Eloquent Author of that *Aphorism*, afterwards lost his Head, and *Rome* its Liberty, for want of being supported by some friendly *Champions*, superior in *Military Virtues*, to those prosperous Enemies of their Country, who put him to Death.

But setting Military Exploits aside, there is a Courage necessary even to Civil Administration, which no Man can possess without being strongly Arm'd against the fear of Death.

I suppose it will be granted me, that there is no Method of Repelling an open Invasion, but by a Military Force; also, that *Fortitude* is the Soul of an Army. It remains then, that I shew the Efficacy of this Virtue against secret Practices by Corruption, which are often more Dangerous than publick Attacks.

Bribery is the certain Bane of States where it prevails: And a Bribe, to any particular Man, is what that Man values most. Its ordinary Operation is by the Promise or Gift of (what Men are usually most Covetous of) *Wealth*. But if Life be yet more valu-

able (as certainly it is) then those who are invincible to Gold, but over-rate their Lives, may be corrupted by Threats instead of Promises. And what Difference is there, in the Consequences, between my Selling my Friends, my Self, and my Country, for Riches; or for any other Prize? between my being Rewarded with the Grant of whole Provinces, or of my Life only? Any Tyrant who can get me into his Power, as effectually Influences me to the worst of evil Actions, by the Assistance of my own Fears, as by the most powerful Considerations of any other kind whatever.

Now as it is impossible for any Society to be prosperous, or safe, where its Members are not resolute in Opposing open Assaults with the hazard of their Lives; and are not also Proof against Corruption, either by Promises or Threats; it became highly the Interest of all (especially such as were least fit for Military Achievements) to inculcate a Principle by which the Defenceless were to be protected by the Valiant, from Foreign Injuries; and the Interest of the Community effectually secured from Domestick Treason.

After what I have said to prove that Contempt of Death is in it self Justly esteem'd the most exalted of all Virtues; I need not take much Pains to shew, that it is eminently distinguishable in Military Men. It very seldom happens that any Embrace the Profession of Arms, but such whose Complexion inclines to Activity rather than Sloth; to conceive high Enterprizes, and attempt Difficulties, rather than decline Labour or Hazard: Such in whom a more robust Frame of Body, a greater Quantity of Animal Spirits, and stronger Sinews, generate that Sort of Confidence, which is Courage; and which by the Force of Example, and habitual Encountering of Dangers, improves into a Contempt of them. This strain'd still higher by Emulation,

Emulation, and *Shame* of yielding to any thing like Fear ; by degrees heightens the Soul to a Temper of being able to bear, almost with Indifference, the View of its Separation from the Body.

Having, I hope, made this Point pretty clear, it remains that I apply it to my Purpose, and shew what this Heroick Temper of the Mind, whether exerting it self in its Active, or Passive Capacity ; has been remarkably well directed to the most generous Ends, and produced the most useful Effects in our *British Armies*. To demonstrate this; and vindicate a Profession founded on so excellent a Basis, is the Scope and Intention of the following Sheets. But before I come too close to my Matter, it is necessary that I remove an Obstacle still in my way.

I know it will be objected, that Courage and Valour are here commended in too general Terms, whereas it is evident, that on many Occasions, they have been as pernicious, as they cou'd be useful to the World. Any other Virtue is as liable to this Objection ; the Excess, or Misapplication of them, may be as prejudicial, as their proper Operations are beneficial to Society. My Intention was only to show, that *Fortitude* is in it self a Virtue : To distinguish the sorts of it, and observe how it may be misaply'd, wou'd require a longer, and more accurate Treatise ; I shall only say as much on this Subject as conduces to my Design ; and that as briefly as possible.

Our Appetites, nay Lusts and Passions, are Perfections of our Nature ; and doubtless implanted in us for good Ends : But when left at large, without proper Restrictions, work dismal Effects. So Courage (in it self highly Valuable) happening to be join'd with Strength, in Men of selfish, violent, and unjust Tempers ; hurries them on to all kinds of Wickedness, and makes them but the more dangerous

rous to Societies. This is properly a *Courage of Con-
stitution*. There is also a *Courage of Reason*; when
People by Nature timorous, are urged by Necessity,
and seeing no other way of Escape; or instructed by
Discipline, to assume a Resolution foreign to their
Tempers, according to the Exigency of Affairs. And
lastly, a *Courage of Honour*, which is always founded
on Justice: The two first Kinds seldom meeting with
any Applause, unless it be to Illustrate the third Sort,
by shewing the Advantage it has over them. This
last is what we maintain to be true Magnanimity, and
what our *British* Army has been signally Excellent in,
tho' (for base ends already mention'd) Branded by a
shameless Faction with Calumnies as Black, as they
are False.

The usual Reproaches cast on the Army are *Ava-
rice, Cruelty, Pride, Drunkenness, Rapine, Profusion, and
Irreligion*. Heavy Charges indeed! but such as it is
easier to alledge, than prove. I hope it would not
be difficult to make out that these Vices are not more
flagrant, and the contrary Virtues not less cultivated
in the Army, than in any other Societies, propor-
tionably to the Numbers of each.

Upon the Heads of Avarice and Rapine, the Ac-
cusations that are urged against Soldiers (but especi-
ally Officers) are reduceable either to Plunder, de-
frauding Inferiors of their Due, or extorting exces-
sive Contributions; for as for Hoarding what they
are legally entitled to, if that were a Fault, it is one
they are cleared from by a Contrary Accusation of too
great Profusion. But Impartially examining what
Grounds the First Imputation subsists on, shall we
not find that there is no Society of Men bound by
stricter Laws against Rapine, than Soldiers, nor any
Laws more severely put in Execution? Are there
not many Examples of poor Fellows put to Death for
stealing,

Sealing, or Violently taking a Loaf or a Hen, tho' they were constrained almost by an absolute Necessity to Rob or Starve? But such an Effect has this admirable Discipline, that in a Body of 100000 Men, naturally the most Daring and Licentious of the Nations they belong to, (notwithstanding that the Severity already mention'd spares none who are found Guilty) one sees fewer Executions in a whole Campaign, than at two Sessions at the *Old-Baily* in this Well govern'd City.

Bearing hard on Inferiors in Point of Dues, has occasioned a louder, and I must say, a juster Clamour than any other: For indeed some Officers have laid themselves too open to Reprehension on this Head. But perhaps when even this is narrowly inspected into, it will appear that the greatest Abuses have not sprung from Gentlemen educated in the Army, but from some who obtained Military Posts, as a Reward for Civil Services; and who enter'd into them with no Notions beyond the making the most of their Bargain. But allowing this Charge it's utmost Force, it will not be hard to parallel the worst Proceedings in the Army, while we have in the Civil Government *Overseers of the Poor, Church Wardens, &c.* Not to search any deeper into this Sore.

As to extorting Contributions, every Body knows, who is e'er so little inform'd of the Army's Operations in the late War, that there was no Room left for any such Complaint against Soldiers or Officers, The Contributions were paid to the Generals by Stipulation, and apply'd to defray the Expence of Sieges: Nor is it less evident, that the most Exact Discipline imaginable was accordingly observed with Regard to the Country then, the Theatre of War. Whether it have not suffer'd more in this Way, since the Peace, is an Enquiry I shall not enter into.

I cannot

I cannot leave this Point without taking Notice of the most canker'd Malice and Envy of the Soldiers Adversaries, who grudging them that Subsistence paid them by the Government, urge their receiving Pay as one of the most griveous and heinous Offences Men could be guilty of: As if the Publick were Robbed and Spoiled of all that it furnishes to Soldiers, for its necessary Defence. These Men sum up all their Venom against the Army in the opprobrious Term of Mercenaries, by which they would have People understand, an Insolent, Licentious, Lawless, Cruel Rapacious Rout, pernicious to Civil Society, and inconsistent with all good Government. This they impose on poor ignorant Folks, who know not that Mercenary, in its good Acceptation, signifies no more than receiving a Salary for their Services. And what Class or Order of Men, I pray, may not as justly be charged with thus much, as the Army? We daily see all Handicrafts-Men and Labourers, receive the Hire of their Industry, yet dont repine at it. We patiently bear the great Estates raised by Lawyers, Physicians, Merchants, &c. without expressing any violent Indignation: Nay, we can without a Murmur see Stock-Jobbers, Gamesters, Pimps, Informers, Misses, Bauds, and Pamphlet-Scriblers thrive by their Cheats, and vile Occupations: We seldom hear these rail'd at by the Title of Mercenary Lawyers, Mercenary Physicians, &c. But does a Gentleman by wasting the best of his Days in Winter Camps, amidst unpeakable Toils and Hazards, by exposing himself to the loss of Limbs, depriving himself of all Ease, or Enjoyment, daily risking Life it self, with all else that can be valuable to him: Does such a one, I say, after Twenty Campaigns save to himself a Competency to enable him to pass the Remainder of a Bar'd Old Age above Contempt or Misery? He is immediately

diatly the Mark of these Men, s utmost Spite and Envy. *These Soldiers ! These Mercenaries ! Ruin Us ; Spoile Us, Suck Our Bloods, and Prey upon Our Vitals !*

The Trade of War (GOD knows) is but a poor Ungreatful one at best, but were it more Profitable, I know no Men, that ought less to be grudged what they earn than Soldiers, I am sure that were the most Courageous of their Adversaries to be exposed one Night, to the *Advance Guard* of the *Trenches* at a Siege, engaged in one Battle, or Assault of a Breach ; they wou'd be convinced that some *Nobler Principle* must animate Men to encounter such *Difficulties*, and face such *Dangers*, than the Lucre of Five or Ten Shillings a Day. And, if one cou'd suppose any Ingenuity in such Wretches, they wou'd be forc'd to confes, the usual Pay, clogged with *Delays, Deductions, Excessive Fees ;* and abridg'd by *Non Payment of Arrears, &c.* is but a slight Recompence for Services of that Nature ; Heaven knows, far from an invidious State of Prosperity.

Mercenary, in the worst Sense of the Word, means such as wou'd be *Hired* to any Action ever so vile, or destructive to Mankind. How well this Character may fit those, who (after having ridiculed Religion, bantered common Sense, and decry'd all Morality) employ'd their Pens and Tongues in vilifying the Army ; I leave the World to judge : But sure it can never suit *Men of Honour*, whom these Wretches have no greater Quarrel to, than that they wou'd not be *Cajoled, Threatned, or Hired* to joyn in their *Ignominious Proceedings*, or be Instruments of Destruction to their Religion and Country. But as receiving Pay has been represented in so odious a Manner, it will not be amiss to give some Account how the Pay of Armies came at first to be settled, by tracing the Steps that were taken, and noting the Causes that made it necessary. For it is certain, that Men inspired with so generous

a Principle, did for a long Time despise all Recompence, but what they found in Virtue it self; till the Circumstances of Affairs, made this Self-Denial impracticable,

In the Infancy of the World, when Quarrels were produced between Petty Princes, or Inconsiderable States, by frivolous Disputes concerning Limits, &c. and when Military Discipline was not yet improved into an Art, these Feuds were commonly decided in a very short Time, by one scuffle or two between the contending Parties. The Lightness of the Labour, and some little Point of National Honour might be Inducement enough, to persuade Men to go five or six Miles from Home on a set Day, meet the Foe, and put the Issue of their Cause on a few Hours Danger and Fatigue. And even in Process of Time, when the Stakes grew more considerable, and Wars were managed by greater Numbers, yet they seldom carry'd Armies very far, or kept Men long from their Civil Occupations.

But when Lust of Power excited ambitious Monarchs, or over-grown Republicks to extend their Frontiers, and Expeditions into distant Countries were undertaken, which employ'd Soldiers in long Campaigns, and whole Years of Service; then it was no longer possible to enlist Numbers without allowing some reasonable Equivalent for the Intermision of their Occupation, as well as for a Reward of such painful Labours.

Now, Money was not yet the Medium of Trade (Commerce being carry'd on by Barter) therefore other Recompences were allotted to military Men, as Plunder, selling the Prisoners, &c. and large Lots of the conquer'd Lands, proportion'd out to the Soldiers, with a particular Regard to such as had distinguish'd themselves in Action.

As the World grew more expert, the Art of Coining found out, and War was managed not only with more Skill and Oeconomy, but carry'd on with more Danger and Fatigue, and in Countries further remote; it then became necessary, not only to fix a Stipendium for the Soldiers, but to add further Encouragements, furnish Provisions, permit the Sack of Towns, bestow Medals, invent Marks of Honour, and confer abundant *Largeſſes*, &c.

In latter Times (when Christianity is said to have civilized the World) Wars are carry'd on with more Humanity, the Profit of ſelling Priſoners no longer ſubſiſts, rich Towns are ſeldom or never given over to the Pillage of the ſoldiers, the Advantages of Contributions are better underſtood, and better apply'd, Wars are longer, and more expensive; Campaigns laſt the whole Year. As the Difficulties increaſe, the Emoluments diminiſh: No Reward is given for extraordinary Services; not ſo much as Preferment, which is oftener owing to good Fortune, than Merit. No poor Weather-beaten Veteran cultivates, now-a-days, his fertile Acres acquired by *Martial Proweſs*: *Rags*, *Scars*, and *Honour*, are all his Inheritance; and the two firſt being worth no one's Acceptance, envious Wretches attempt to rob him of the laſt.

Befides, Military Art is now refined to the utmoſt Degree of Perfection, and requires the ſerving more than one Apprenticeship, with the greateſt Application, before a Man can arrive at a Maſtery in it; ſo that all other Thoughts muſt be laid aſide, all other Employment waved, and every other gainful Profeſſion to ally neglected, in Order to acquire a tolerable Meaſure of Skill in this Science. Whoever undertakes this painful Occupation, loſes all Hopes of ſucceeding in any other Way of Livelihood, and conſequently risks his Fortune, as well as Life, for the Defence

Defence of his Country. The Allowance then of Pay will, I humbly conceive, appear to impartial Men, not less reasonable in these Days, than in former Times.

If any Credit were given to the Scurrility of the Decryers of the Army, People must think Soldiers a Species of Creatures nourish'd in Blood, inur'd to Cruelty, and pleas'd to execute the barbarous Vengeance of any commanding Tyrant, without Remorse or any Regard to Right or Wrong. They have been stiled the Bullies and Bravoes to the Delighters in War, by those who delight in an infamous *French Peace*. But that a Red Coat no more inclines Men to Blood than a Black one, nor a Drum more loudly resounds wholsome Severities than a Pu'pit, will easily appear to such as will enquire into Matter of Fact.

The *British Nation* in General, is accused by Foreigners of being *sanguinary*, that is, Lovers of Sights accompany'd with *Bloodshed*. They draw their Inferences from the Eagerness shewn by our Mob, at *Bull Baiting*, *Cock Matches*, *Prize-Fightings*, &c. This unjust Conclusion proceeds from want of Skill in the Nature of Mankind. A Hardy, Magnanimous People are, and always were, fond of such Sports, where noble Contests are manag'd with some Mixture of Danger to the Antagonists: But they are not insensible, at the same Time, of Compassion for their Disasters; and really it is this Concern which engages People, and heightens their Relish of these Diversions. Thus Men are pleas'd at the skilful Representation of a deep Tragedy; not that they are unmoved at the Melancholy Scene; if so, they could have no Pleasure: It is b'cause they are extremely touch'd, and love to be so touch'd, that they frequent these Spectacles. And it may be Remark'd, that People of the best Nature, and most Compassionate Temper, are inclin'd

inclin'd to seek Occasions of Exerting these Qualities in the Contemplation of Virtue in Distress.

I have been led into a kind of Digression, but it is not altogether useless to the Matter in Hand: For as I have shewn, that the general Charge of Cruelty brought against our Nation, stands on a wrong Foundation; it will be no less easy to demonstrate, that the *Common-place* Cry of Blood-thirsty Soldiers, is partial and unjust. The Ignorant run away with a Notion, that all who engage in a Military Life, profess Murder. to Combat such Opinions, there is no Occasion for Argument; the Fact speaks loudly against them. There are an Hundred Instances of capricious quarrellsome Men's becoming easy and tractable in the Army; but perhaps not one, of any Person's bringing a quiet and peaceable Disposition with him into the Camp, and losing or converting it to a turbulent jangling Temper, by his Conversation with Soldiers. Add to this, that where a high Point of Honour reigns, one seldom or ever hears of any base Action. If Quarrels arise, (as where do they not at one Time or other?) they are fairly decided, and no Malice remains lurking in the Breasts of the Parties, which afterwards breaks out into Villanous Contrivances of each others Ruin. Among them, one never hears of Men treacherously Stab'd or Murder'd in their Beds; and indeed Occasion is seldom given for such violent Proceedings, because Soldiers accustomed to a frank generous Behaviour, know so well the value of Reputation, that they are extremely cautious of blasting it in another. It is proper for me to make one Remark more, the Truth of which is known to every Body that has been conversant in our Armies, during this late War. and with which I may conclude this Subject, because it leaves no Room for Doubt, with such as are capable of being convinc'd of
the

the Truth of any Allegation in favour of the Army: The unfair Proceedings of the *French* in many Particulars, made it often expedient to use Severities by way of Reprisal; and accordingly, Orders were issued out to give no Quarter on certain Occasions to small *Robbing Parties*, who in the Habit of *Peasants*, extremely infested the Country and our Army. But notwithstanding that many of our Men had been Sufferers by that Crew of Thieves, and had frequent Opportunities of taking a Revenge, justified by positive Orders; yet nothing could prevail on those of our Nation to comply with them in this Particular: Nor can I recollect one Execution of this kind, committed by our Soldiers during the whole Time of my Services.

As for the Sins of *Drunkenness*, *Immorality*, and *Prophaneness*; I heartily wish they could not so justly be charg'd upon the Nation in general, and the Wickedness of the Age we live in, I can only say they are not more (perhaps less) flagrant among the Soldiers, than among other Orders of Men in our Country. If their *Spiritual*, as well as *Temporal* Guides, would edify the meaner sort by good Example, it might greatly contribute to a Reformation.

But I shall touch, perhaps, upon the very *Source* of Detraction, the very *Main-Spring* of the Envy born to Military Men, when I mention their *expensive way of living*, which provokes all the Malignant Spirits of such whose Circumstances or Temper will not allow them to gratify their Appetites, in (what they call) *so profuse* a manner. Nothing more exasperates Country-Gentlemen, whose Expences are chiefly apply'd to the *solid Pleasures* of Beef, *Ox-ber*, *Hounds* and *Horse-flesh* than to see a young gay Ensign strut in gawdy Cloaths the Model of the Mode, the Delight of the Fair Sex, and the Envy of his own. The first Reflection that occurs to him on these Occasions, is, That he pays
Fouls

Four Shillings in the Pound towards the Maintenance of this happy Spark ; and so pursuing the Thought no further, he concludes that this Insatiable Species of Mortals is a Nuisance to his Country, (which too often centers in himself.) That they are the Caterpillars that devour both Fruit and Blossom, and therefore wishes them utterly destroy'd from the Face of the Earth. Did he consider a little better, he might reflect, that he now saw the *Butter-fly* in its *sunshine* adorn'd with all its gawdy Plumes, and Reveling in the Pleasures of his *Spring* : But were he truly sensible of the nipping Frost, Want, and Misery, it had endur'd in its *Winter* ; he wou'd then perceive, that its present Happiness was over-balance'd by past and future Ills. To 'pike more sensibly, is it so strange that Young Gentlemen, expos'd for eight Months in the Year to all the inconveniencies of Want, Cold, Fatigue, and Danger, shou'd at their Return home endeavour to make themselves some amends, by spending the remainder of their Time (and perhaps two Thirds of their Years Substance) in pursuit of such Pleasures as Tranquillity can afford them for a few Months only ?

I readily join with any Body in Opinion, that another Sort of Conduct wou'd be more prudent ; that moderate Enjoyment of their Satisfactions, wou'd provoke less Envy ; as a better Oeconomy wou'd maintain them in more convenient Circumstances. But as People to be thus criminally Arrai'n'd only for want of a little Prudence in their private Managemen^t. Then why is not the Young Man so persecuted for squandering away a noble Estate ? Or the grave Gentleman with a numerous Family for his Gaming excessively ? Why is not such a Lord reprov'd for his Waste in his Equipage ? Such another for his Profusion in Mistresses, Clubs, or Building

No, all Vices are pardonable, it seems, or even allowable in any Class of Men, except Soldiers. If they were treated like the rest of Mankind, and accused only of *Folly* in this Part of their Conduct, it would not be easy to defend them from that Imputation. And the Consequences of it deserve, in my Opinion, *Pity* rather than *Envy*. For if they will needs chuse a *short Life and a merry*; if they will spend all their own small Pittance in *One Day*, stretch their Credit till it cracks, and subject themselves to draw out the Fag-end of Life, in Debt, Gaols, and Misery: I don't see that they are accountable to any but themselves.

Profusion, is not a Vice peculiar to Soldiers: It is now pretty generally in Vogue, but its Rise in the Army is owing to the same Cause that has produced all Mischief, fatal to our Island; name'y, a *servile imitation* of the *French*; an Evil which has increased upon us, since it became the Fashion (nay almost a Law, to call *them* our only true Friends in *Europe*; and the bold Man, who dar'd to exert his Reason, and say otherwise, was immediately Accus'd of invading *Prerogative*.

This *light Nation*, whose *Vanity* is its predominant *Passion*; thinking it self secure of Universal Empire, had of late Years begun to act in all Things, with a sort of *Superiority* over the rest of Mankind; whom they despised to such a degree, that they scorned to confine themselves to the rigorous Laws of exact Discipline and Temperance, (the surest Way to Conquest,) but affected a kind of *Pomp and Luxury* in Enslaving the World: Which empty *Feppery*, perhaps, did not the least contribute to the defeating their ambitious Designs. One of the first *Symptoms*, and worst Effects of a decaying Discipline, is the permitting Posts in the Army to be purchased over the Heads of *Veteran Officers*, by Young Noblemen of little or no Service.

Accordingly

Accordingly we saw their Armies fill'd with *Petits Maîtres*, who having little Military Merit to recommend them, had recourse to keeping great Tables, and introducing all the *Luxury* and *Debauchery* of *Paris*, into their Camps of *Flanders*. I wish I cou'd say this pernicious Custom had stop'd there; and had not rather (like a *Defector*) quitted the *Vanquish'd*, to enlist with the *Conquerors*.

I think there is no *Common* Objection or Fault laid to the Army, but what I have either answer'd or excus'd. I wish some abler Pen had undertaken this Defence, but in so good a Cause perhaps even my weak Endeavours may suffice.

Some will seem to fair as to own that (whatever may have been the *Personal* Faults of particular Members of the Army) the *Profession* has been cleared from most of the false Imputations against it; or at least, that if there were any inherent Vices in it, the *Vertue* of these who have overcome them, must be the more worthy Remark and Commendation. But then they will alledge, that if these Gentlemen's Behaviour has been commendable, it is because their Services have been gratefully Acknowledged: They have had no Provocations, *Tria's*, or Temptations to act otherwise than Right; and (then to be sure a *French* Proverb is quoted) *The Devil himself is good when he's pleas'd*

Such an Artful Extenuation of Merit, is more to be guarded against than the indiscreet Fury of an avow'd Enemy, because it carries with it an Air of *Moderation* and *Impartiality*, which is capable of doing more Mischief than scurrilous Railing, as it generally meets with more Credit among the *unprejudic'd* Part of Mankind. To obviate the ill Effects of it in our Case, it will be expedient to shew, that the Army has suffer'd great *Hudsp* in the Exercise of their Duty, and in point of

Pay: (

Pay : That subtle Snares have been laid to entrap their
Honesty : That great *Temptations* and *Threats* have
 been craftily practis'd. and as bravely resisted ; and
 that their Behaviour under this ill Usage has been not
 only Irreproachable, but deserving of some Applause.

I begin with the Mention of some of their Suffer-
 ings, and their Behaviour under them ; in which I
 can't propose to be very Minute and Circumstantial,
 or to extend my Observations any further than Times
 within most People's Memory,

It must be remember'd, to the Everlasting Honour
 of *British* Soldiers, that when King *James* had levy'd
 and modell'd an Army to support him in his Arbitrary
 Designs of Enslaving his Country ; That notwithstanding
 his great Care to employ only such as he thought
 entirely inclined to second his Views : Yet those Men
 were no sooner sensible of his unjustifiable Contrivan-
 ces, against the *Religion* and *Liberty* of these Nations ;
 but they withdrew themselves from his Service, and
 they joyn'd in our *Glorious Deliverer's* Immortal Enterprize for
 our Rescue ; chusing to abandon present Preferment and
 a false Hopes ; and hazard Fortune and Life in a good
 Cause, rather than prosper by a bad One ; or content
 to the Violation of their Country's *Laws* and *Liberties*.
 A Rare Example of *True Publick Spirit*, and a Notable
 Document to ambitious Princes, if any such shoul'd
 ever attempt hereafter to enslave these Islands !

Soon after, this Army (little injur'd to the Toils of
 War) was led to the Reduction of *Ireland* ; where
 they had a melancholy Opportunity of shewing their
 passive Courage, at the Camp of *Dundalk*, which they
 kept near Three Months with incredible Patience and
 Courage, tho' grievously afflicted with a Sort of E-
 pidemic

pidemic Disease, and far inferior in Number to the Enemy) and thereby preserved the *Protestant Interest* in that Kingdom.

I Pass over the many Battles, Sieges, or other Military Operations, gallantly performed their in Reduction of that Island, and driving out the *French*, as well as quelling an Army of *Irish Papists* ; both which had, in Time, been made use of to subvert the Government here. But referring my Reader to the Histories of those Times, I come to mention what relates to the Army when the happy Issue of that *domestick War*, gave the King Leisure and Opportunity to transfer the Scene to the Enemies Conquer'd Countries in *Flanders*;

King *WILLIAM* the Third of *Immortal Memory*, was, the whole Time of his Reign, entangl'd in a Labyrinth of Difficulties, cunningly contrived for Him, by the same *Loyal Party* which has since embroiled the Affairs of all *Europe*. The opposing, or rendring ineffectual, all Funds for carrying on the War, was the ultimate End of their utmost Vigilance and Application : By which Means it constantly happen'd that the King was constrained to take the Field later than the Enemy, and with inferior Forces ; and was often put to the Dilemma of suffering the *French* to over-run all *Flanders*, or, (in order to stop their Progress) oppose them with disproportion'd Armies, under other great Disadvantages. It is no Wonder that the Success of Battels, thus unequally Fought, proved contrary to his Wishes ; but it is worth Remark, that in all these Actions, the Bravery of the *British Troops* was the same as if it had always been crown'd with Victory : And though they were often forced to quit the Field, were

never

never known to be discouraged, or to decline the next Opportunity of Fighting ; but shew'd themselves ever *erect* in Danger, and chearful in supporting the Fatigues, even of an *unsuccessful* War. It must not be forgotten that in the Progress of it the Nation labouring under the *Agonies* of an expiring Credit at Home and Abroad, (by the total Debasement of the current Coin) the Officers of the Army served above two Years without receiving their Subsistence, submitting with the greatest Alacrity imaginable to all Extremities they were reduced to, rather than by the least Murmur to disturb the Quiet of their afflicted Country. And to shew that their Behaviour has ever since continued extremely Consistent with the Duty of true Subjects, and good Members of the Commonwealth, I shall now come nearer to our later Times, and lay open to the Publick View both the *Provocations* and *Temptations* they have endured, with their Deportment under them ; which plain *Staring* of the Case, with a Recital of undoubted Facts, will I am Confident, serve for their entire Vindication.

Fortiter ille facit, qui miser esse potest.

Martial Epigr.

The late War in *Flanders* (as it was by much the most Important to the *grand Ends* for which the War was undertaken) was also by the admirable Management of my Lord Godolphin so well supported, that the Forces there cou'd scarce complain of any Wants or Hardships. Though, the many *successful Battles*, *labourious Marches*, and *hazardous Sieges*, did indeed seem to claim from the *Queen* and *Nation*, some extraordinary Bounty, over and above daily Pay, as an Encouragement and Reward of so many glorious Performances ; The long and memorable Campaign of *Lille* and
Ghent

Ghent did particularly deserve some such Notice; where the Army kept the Field till after *Christmas*, and suffer'd much by loss of Horses and Baggage, as well as by extream Cold, and other *Fatigues* and *Dangers*.

But in *Spain* the Army has been used at that horrible Rate ever since 1711, that nothing in the World can account for it, but a *deliberate Design* of Destroying that Body of Men. And whoever will compare the Circumstances of the Ministry's Proceedings, with the Posture of their *private Transactions* with *France* at that *Juncture*, must conclude, that their Playing the *Game Booby*, on purpose to lose *Spain* (which was the *Bone of Contention*) was stipulated between our Ministry, and theirs, as being more feasible, and having a better Grace on both Sides, than its being given up by an *Article* of the *Peace*. On the *French* Parr, it wou'd have had the Air of *Conquest*, and furnish'd an excellent Topick of Flattery to *Messieurs de l'Accademie Royale*, who had not failed in Offering such Incense to the Shrine of their *Grand Monarch*, as the Appearance of his driving the *Allies* out of *Spain* wou'd have afforded them. On the Part of our *Ministers*, it was absolutely necessary. For the *Queen* had so often declared from the Throne, and the *House of Lords* (even since the Change in 1710.) insisted on it as their positive Opinion, that *Europe* was not safe if *Spain* and the *Indies* were left in the *House of Bourbon*; that our late *Ministers*, themselves, had, I believe, no Glimpse of Hope; that this Nation could ever bear the surrendring the *Prize* they had so long contended for; to the utter *Ruin* of the most considerable *Branches* of our *Trade*. The suffering *Spain* therefore to be wrested out of our Hands, with the agreeable Circumstance of ridding themselves, at the same Time, of Six thousand *Delighters*

in War, was the safest, easiest, and most criminal Method of getting over so knotty a Point ; and was therefore chosen.

That what is here advanc'd is not bare *Conjecture* or at least, not ill grounded ; I submit to the Judgment of such as well enquire into, and duely consider this one *Matter of Fact* ; That of the Sums appropriated by Parliament to the *Spanish Service* for the Year 1711. not above one *fifth* Part was remitted within the due Time ; and even that in such a Manner, as to contribute very littel to the preventing the *Ruin* which (as they were sufficiently inform'd) did hang over us. And yet we were to be amused and told from Time to Time that all Things necessary shou'd be supply'd ; as will more plainly appear by what follows.

When the Duke of *Argyle* was appointed to command in *Catalonia*, his Grace was promis'd that he shou'd meet with Bills at *Genoa* ; but at his Arrival there, those Bills, it seems, had flown over to *Barcelona* ; and when he landed in *Catalonia*, he found no Signs of any Remittances there, for the Use of the Army which must even then have perish'd, had not my Lord Duke made Use of his own private Credit, to save that Body of Troops from Destruction. What cou'd thus be borrow'd, was scarce sufficient to put Bread into the Mouths of poor Soldiers : It still remained impossible for them to March out of Quarters, and take the Field. This was in *August* 1711. when the Duke de *Vendome*, with an Army of near 40,000 Men threatened the utter Destruction of *Catalonia*, with its Capital, *Barcelona*. Nothing had been more Feasible than for the Enemy to have surprized our several Regiments in their *separate Quarters*, and slaughter'd them without Resistance ; since the forming a Body to oppose

oppose them, was utterly impracticable. In the mean Time our Soldiers were in the utmost Want of all Necessaries, the Officers under the greatest Apprehensions imaginable ; daily expecting *Mutinies, Desertion, a total Disbanding, Robberies, Sacrilege*. and indeed all desperate *Violences* that Men driven to Extremities are capable of. To obviate these Mischiefs, if possible ; no Care, no Expedient was omitted ; the general Officers and Colonels, borrow'd upon their own private Credit what Money they could, in their several Quarters ; and with these small Sums (tho' with much Difficulty) for a while supported their Regiments.

In these Circumstances what was to be done ? Tame-ly lye still and be knocked in the Head ? Rob the Churches and Monasteries ? Pillage our Quarters, raise the Country upon us, and so find our selves enclosed between the *French* and *Miquelets* ? Or were we to assemble without *Bread*, without *Carriages*, without *Subsistence*, or a Possibility of procuring any ? If none of these Measures were advisable, there remain'd but one *Expedient* to disengage us : And that was frankly to sacrifice the *Marschal de Saxe*, with his *Imperial Troops*, the *Dutch* and our own *Palatines* (a Parcel of *Foreigners* !) and make an *Honourable Stipulation* for our own March home through *France* ; which, no doubt, had been granted us, for so valuable a *Consideration*, as our resigning all *Spain*, without further *Trouble* or *Bloodshed*.

But alas ! these Measures so we'l concerted, were unfortunately broken. The Duke of *Argyle* cou'd not but perceive the ill Usage given him, and 'tis probable that he penetrated the very *Arcanum* of this Scheme. Such Expedients were therefore used, by his Grace and Mr. *Mead*, that they procured a Fort-

nights

nights Subsistence for the Army ; and without any further Prospect, took the Field as confidently, as if they had expected to have been fed by *Elijah's Ravens*. Under these (I had almost said *insuperable*) Difficulties, did we begin the memorable Campaign of *Prats del Roy* ; in which by the Zeal of our Generals, and Unparallel'd *Patience, Courage, and Obedience* of the Army ; We kept Possession of *Spain another Year*, in spite of the *French*, and of our own *Ministers*.

In the mean Time, the Arms of the Allies were attended with the usual Success in *Flanders*. It was apprehended that their Progress would soon carry them to the *Gates of Paris*. The *French Court* were Impatient of Delays, and their affairs would not bear so tedious a Method as waiting another Year for the *Bonne-grace* of seeming to Conquer *Catalonia*. Fresh and earnest Instances must be made to their *Saviours* our *Ministers* : It therefore became necessary for the last, to pass the *Rubicon*, and get over the grand Point of Surrendring *Spain* by a *Treaty*. 'Tis very observable, that till about the Time we can judge this Important *Bargain* was thus agreed on, no Money was remitted to our Troops in that Country.

It is no less worth Remark, that even after our *Desertion* of the *Catalans*, and our being Transported into *Minorca* ; as the same Game was necessary to make that Island untenable ; so the Army was again reduced to the same Indigence ; and had not the Duke of *Argyle's* Plate and Equipage been left there, by the greatest Chance in the World, and made use of as a Fund Credit ; and had not Admiral *Jennings* twice or thrice in the like Exigences advanc'd 5000 or 6000 Pounds of his own Money, or such as he borrow'd amongst the Captains of the Fleet ; Had not, I say, these lucky Accidents inter-

interpos'd, there is nothing more sure than that *Port Mahon* had been long ago abandon'd, and 5000 of the best *English* Foot the Sun ever shone upon, must have been famish'd, or have sold themselves to the *Algerines*, for *Bread*.

Whoever is convinc'd by the Perusal of these Sheets and Reflection on the Matter of Fact, how *Ruinous* the Service in *Spain* has been of late to the Officers in general; whoever considers that the Soldiers and Officers, but especially the Generals have shewn a very particular Zeal for her Majesty's Service, and the Interest of the Nation, will be apt to conclude, That there was no Necessity to impose an *Inquisition* upon them by sending out, under the Title of *Inspectors*, the most *Odious Commission*, that ever Acted by *Publick Authority*. A Commission, Calculated for the Vilest Ends that ever employ'd the Thoughts of Wicked Politicians: For the Proof of which, I refer my self to their own Reports, and the Answers to them; by which it plainly appears, that the Design of their Institution was only to asperse Persons whose Integrity, Prudence, and Fidelity, had been most Eminent in the Service of the *Queen and Nation*; to disgrace and bring an *Odium* upon Officers in general; and find out some specious Pretence for defrauding them of the Arrear they had so just a Claim to: Which Score it was easier to wipe out with a *Spunge*, than to discharge regularly, considering that those Sums (as all other Publick Money) were to be apply'd to the Purchase of *Chains, Popery, and Eternal Infamy*, to this poor Nation.

The Method the *Inspectors* took to make their Enquiries, was entirely Corrospendent to the End of them. All thoir Informations were built on the Stories of some mean profligate Wretches, frighted or driven
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into the relating a Parcel of *frivolous circumstances* which were afterwards *patch'd up*, and by great *Industry and Artifice* made to amount to something like a useful *Discovery*. This notable Piece of Service was thought, it seems, by a very *frugal Ministry and Parliament*, to be worth the Expence to the Nation of Five Pounds a Day each, Forty Shillings a Day to a Secretary, Seven Shillings and Six Pence each to Two Clerks, besides large Extraordinaries and Travelling Charges, amounting in all to 15, or 20000 *l.* a Year.

Had not the Queen's Servants and all Publick Ministers remained unpaid, had not many considerable Bills of Exchange drawn by the Treasurer's own Order continued unanswered; had not the Three Years *pretended Peace* proved every Way more expensive, than as many of a *consuming War*; mistaken Men might be led into an Opinion, that whatever Faults were justly objected to our *blessed Peace-Makers*; yet, the Nation had been considerably a Saver by their *good Oeconomy*.

The World would then have ascribed to their *Irregularity* the breaking of so many Regiments Abroad, directly contrary to an *Act of Parliament*: But as the Matter now stands, I am at a Loss what to attribute this extraordinary Step to, unless to their *implacable Hatred of the Army*. What the Consequences might have been, of first dissolving the *Obligation of Obedience* to Superiors, and then sending home, in the Queens Ships, such a Number of *bold and warlike Men*, not subject to any command of either *Land or Sea Officers*; I dare scarce pretend to guess. The Event has indeed proved better than could have been expected; but I remember that the least timorous among us, were apprehensive that they might combine with the most Murinous of the *Sailors*, and seize the Ships in order to carry on a

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South-Sea-Trade more beneficial, perhaps, than the *Affiento Contract*.

That nothing of this Kind happen'd leads every Man so naturally into a Reflection very much to the Advantage of *British* Soldiers, that I will leave it with them, and go on with my Subject.

Among the Hardships imposed on the Army by their late Friends, the Misapplication of the Charitable Foundation at *Chelsea-Hospital* had been mentioned, if the Abuses practis'd there had not already been discover'd, and put into so clear a Light, by an eminent Hand: that there is no Room for any further Enquiry, but what will be made by the same worthy Gentleman, always, undaunted and indefatigable in the Service of his Country.

But I can't leave the Subject of *Hardships*, without taking Notice of the mighty Artifice used, to the Prejudice of the Officers, in the manner of settling the *Half-Pay*. It is confess'd that this Allowance is a pure Bounty of the Nation; and as such, is greatly acknowledged by the Gentlemen who receive it. But since the *Parliament* was pleas'd to think them in some Measure deserving of a Favour of this Nature, it had become the *Ministry* to have order'd it so, as that it shou'd as much as possib'le answer the Ends of a *Benefit*. There is no manner of Doubt, but that if the *Peace* had been concluded under the same Administration that carry'd on so glorious and successful a *War*; if the same spirit had animated the Commons of *Great-Britain* in rewarding the Instruments of an advantageous *Peace*, which formerly gave Vigour to their Proceedings, in supporting the Means of procuring it; it's to be presumed, I say, that the *Army*, recommended from

the Throne, had easily obtained from *such a Parliament* a bounteous Recompence for their faithful Services. *Foreign Subsistence* had then been though a very trifling Increase of Expence to the Nation, in Comparison with the Pleasure of Providing handsomely for to many Gentlemen who had deserved well from it, and whose Hands and Hearts it might depend on in any future Exigency, as entirely devoted to its *true Interests*.

But this Zeal, this Fidelity, were so far from being Arguments in their Favour, with our *late Managers*, that they certainly were the Principal Cause of their ill Treatment. Their Half Pay was clogged with all the Difficulties imaginable; it was by an *insidious Clause* particularly reserved for those who had *served well*; and how that *Clause* might in Time have been explained, no body knows; though many guess. Half Pay was made inconsistent with any other *Provision*, while Officers enjoying the *whole Profits* of their Posts (who in a little Time had been none, but their devoted Friends) were intitled to any Employment of Trust or Advantage. Instead of being Advanced, the Payments of it were so retarded, that Officers were reduced to great Extremities, for want of a due Punctuality: It begun to be reckoned almost as bad a Fund for Credit as *Arrears*, on which no Money could be raised without such a Discount as amounted in

in Effect to a Deduction of one Quarter of the whole.

Shou'd I enter into a minute Detail of all the *Grievances* of the Army, under the Oppression of their exasperated Enemies; these Sheets wou'd swell to a Volume, contrary to my Design, which is only to hint at the general Heads under which one may range the ill Usage Military Men has received.

But there remains still one particular Piece of ill Treatment, I cannot pass over in Silence, and which I am sure the Army must be sensibly affected with; since it leaves a Blemish on their *Honours*, which, next to their Religion and Country, ought to be a Soldiers nearest Concern. I am confident the bare mention of it, in this Light, leads every Body to conclude, I must mean the *Shameful Separation of our Forces, from those of the Allies*, at the critical Juncture, when we had the Enemy in View, and consequently in our Power; when we were Flush'd with an Assurance of adding new *Victories* to the Triumphs of the *Line* and *Bouchain*; when the Fate of *France* had been decided in its own Bowels, and nothing cou'd have prevented our March to *Paris*, but the French King's

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submitting to *Carte Blanche*, or ——— what shall I say ? or this infamous *Defection* of our faithful Friends, and Forfeiture of all our justly acquired Honours.

A Stain ! which (though the Soldiers had no share in the Guilt of) I dare say they will ever be uneasy, till they have an Opportunity of wiping off. It is notorious that though great Pains and Art were used to palliate the Baseness of this Proceeding to them, and scurvy Endeavours officiously employ'd to extort their Applause, yet it was easy to have read in their Faces, how much they had prefer'd following their *Great General* to certain Death, before being led by their *Good General* to such Inglorious Safety.

Nothing that aggrieves the Army ought to be mention'd after this *last Instance*. I proceed then to take Notice of the most extraordinary *Methods*, used a few Months before the late *Queen's Decease*, to garble the Forces for a Design, which it was not yet time to avow, tho' it were absolutely necessary to prepare the Way for it. *Promises, Cajoling, Threats*, and all manner of *Temptations* were try'd, to draw into the *Project* as many of the Experienced Officers as cou'd be wrought upon. Several
were

were for this purpose *cloſeted*, and extremely preſſed with large Promiſes of Preferment, &c. to Enter into the Queen's Measures. When they replied, That they were Her Maſteſty's Dutiful Subjects, and wou'd readily Obey Her, in every Thing conſiſtant with the Dictates of their Honour and Conſcience: This was not admitted as a ſatisfactory Answer. They were to engage *Implicity*, which they ſhewing an Aversion to, (as ſuſpecting the Drift of the Propoſers) then *Innuendo's* were let fall, that *Poſts* in the Army were only during Pleaſure, not Places for Life, &c. But theſe alſo making ſmall Impreſſion, other Tools were then to be provided, in whoſe Breſt the dark Myſtery might more ſafely be conſided. A long black Liſt of ſtubborn honeſt Men was accordingly Compil'd as a Guide to a General Breaking: And I cannot forbear Remarking, that it was compoſed of the brighteſt Characters of our Army: Thoſe whoſe Courage and Zeal in Defence of the Glorious Cauſe contended for, had moſt Eminently diſtinguiſhed it ſelf: Nay, ſome who were thought worthy to have particular Marks of Honour conſerr'd on them in the Field of Battle, immediatly after the Noble Service they had perform'd: Theſe, I ſay, were the Perſons that ſell a Sacrifice to this wicked Scheme.

Anorher

Another List of this kind was said to be Transmitted to *Ireland*, by the Hands of a certain Person every Way capable of so *Important a Trust*. The Publick was indeed Robbed of a great deal of Light into the Extent of that Gentleman's Commission, by the sudden Death of Her Majesty, which put a Stop to the Execution of it ; But busy People can't help forming Conjectures from the previous Steps taken, and drawing such Conclusions from those Premises, as by the Help of a little Intelligence, amount almost to a Certainty.

Two Reflections will unavoidably arise from the comparing the Characters of the Gentlemen thus displaced, or to be displaced, with those of the suspicious Persons to be put in their Room. One is, that the Design must be a vile One, which was rejected by Men of Honour, and embraced by profligate Wretches. The Other, that to this notable Firmness of the Officers ; is owing, under God, the Safety of the Nation, and that His *present Majesty* now fills the Throne, at least, that He came to it without Effusion of Blood.

Thus I have endeavour'd to go through with what I propos'd ; If not with that
Strength

Strenth of Argument, and Elegance of Style, that the Subject deserves; Yet, I am sure, with a Sincerity and Zeal for the Truth, that becomes a Person concerned for the Welfare of his Country, and the Honour of the Army. I have given some Reasons (and I flatter my self not wake ones) why *Fortitude* has been, and ought to be, held in some Esteem, as a *Virtue* highly usefull to the Publick. I have mention'd some Instances, wherein the *British* Soldiers have appeared Eminently possess'd of it, whether distinguish'd into an *Active* or *Passive*, *Civil* or *Military* Species. I hope I have also clear'd the Gentlemen of the *Profession* from the Calumnies wherewith they have been basely Aspersed; and recited several Hardships they have undergone, as well as Tryals of all kinds they have withstood, without Swerving from the Rules of strictest Honour, and the Duty of good Subjects. The best Return I can now make to the Kind *Reader*, who has had the Patience to peruse these Sheets thus far, will be to release him, which I propose to do after a few *Observations* incident to my Subject.

It is not a little strange, that in the Ten first Years of a War, divertify'd with various *Accidents*, and made irksome by many *Hard-*

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ships already mentioned; there never happen'd, under the Conduct of Her Majesty's Well-chosen Generals, the least *Tumult Mutiny*, or *Disorder*. And here it will be no improper Observation, That no sooner the Command was Transferr'd to other Hands, but those very Soldiers who had always shewn themselves so tractable, broke out into the most ungovernable Licentiousness imaginable, which show'd it self in dangerous *Mutinies*, both in *Flanders* and at *Home*. Nor is this Misfortune to be ascribed only to the Neglect and Weakness of the Generals, then at the Head of the Army; but in a great Measure, perhaps, to the total Dissolution of the Band of *Discipline*, by the scandalous Industry used at Home to foment *Rebellion* in the Soldiers. Of which shameful Proceeding, the *Immediat ill Effects* were not the greatest Mischiefs: The worst Consequences of it being, in my Opinion, still to come. And they will not be felt, whenever the Nation has again Occasion for an Army in the Field. For it will be found an easy *Task*, or the Work of a few Months, to reduce the Army to its former and necessary Temper of *Obedience*; nor will it probably be effected without sacrificing some hundred of poor obstinate Wretches Artfully Debauch'd from a right Sense of their Duty,

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who must inevitably fall as necessary Examples for reestablishing Discipline.

It may be farther observed, that *Armies*, which were first instituted for Self-Defence against invading Foes, have often been perverted to deviate from the true End of their Institution, and been made subservient to very wicked Purposes. They commonly are entirely dependant on their *Kings* or *Commanders*, and consequently have too often proved their *Instruments* of *Tyranny*. Can then a Behaviour so contrary as that of the *British* Forces, at the Time of the Revolution, be ever sufficiently extoll'd? Is it possible to find in *History* a more signal Example of a firm Adherence to the *Laws*, *Liberties*, and *Religion* of one's Countrey, than that Army shew'd on so important an Occasion?

The known Method of recruiting our Forces of late Years, has been by clearing the *Countrey*, and emptying the *Gaols* of all the most notorious and irreclaimable Rogues, that Civil Government was burden'd with: And even in this Particular the War has been of no small Service to the Publick. But is it not a very surprizing Effect of the good Order, and Spirit of Honour reigning in the Army, that these

these very Fellows shou'd scarce have served a Campaign, before they assume quite a different Character ; and are observed to Vie with one another, not only in Bravery, but in Regularity and Submission to their Officers ? If any doubt the Truth of this Assertion, let them recollect that since the Disbanding of the Forces, (notwithstanding the Necessity several poor Soldiers are reduced to,) not one of this Profession has been Executed for Robbery on the High-Way, Coining, House-Breaking, or any other Capital Crime whatever. Thus much Praise is undeniably due to the Common Soldiers. As for the Effect a *Camp Education* has upon Gentlemen ; I believe most People will agree, that whatever Advantages in *Learning* or *Manners* a Youth brings with him into the Army ; are there polish'd, at least, if not improved. The Airs of *Pedantry* and *Affectation* are worn off, and a certain *Cavalier Negligence* acquired, which gives a Grace both to his *Gesture* and the Turn of his Conversation. Indeed I must be so just to the very Enemies of the Profession as to own I have seldom heard them accuse Officers in general of Want of *Manners* ; but shou'd there be any in so wrong an Opinion, I desire them to remark, that if ever any just Occasion of Offence is given by an Officer, it

will

will be found to arise from some raw Young Fellow of little Service and no Experience.

Since then the Behaviour of the Army has been *Heroically Brave* in Action; since it has been remarkably Submissive in Point of Obedience to Command; since it has been signally Patient in suffering Fatigues and Hardships; since it has been egregiously Steady to the true Interest of its Countrey: If the Army, I say has fulfill'd all the *Duties* of good Subjects good Soldiers, and good Patriots, it is humbly hoped that the ensuing Parliament will have some Regard for a Department so unexceptionable in all Relations, with respect to the Publick. Nor is it doubted but the worthy Gentlemen who compose this House of Commons, will find some Expedient *entirely consistent with the Safety of our Constitution*, to make a competent Provision for a Number of Gentlemen who (having no gainfull Occupation,) labour under great Encumbrance, by Debts contracted in the Service, which it is impossible for them to discharge by a Fund so slender and precarious as the Half-Pay on the Bottom it now stands: I say *consistent with the Safety of our Constitution*, because I am sure they wou'd not desire it upon any other

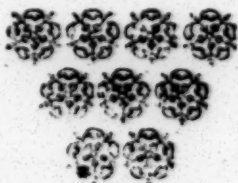
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Terms: And I shou'd look upon my self expos'd to no great Hazard, were my Life at stake on the Assurance. That if the Fate of the Army depended on a Vote of the Officers, there wou'd be found among them a Majority of so much Worth and Honour, as by a Self-denying Act, to break themselves, if they saw the Temper of the Soldiers growing dangerous to our Civil Rights.

Tho' the Nation seems to be in no Condition of Engaging in a New War, yet it is probable that the *State of our Trade*, the present *Posture of Affairs in Europe* and the *Measures taken by our Enemies*, will force us into one. The *Guilt and Contrivance* of it must doubtless be ascribed to those who interrupted the Progress of our Arms, when they were successful; and yet it is well foreseen that they will endeavour to throw the *Odium* of an Evil they have made necessary, on the Persons who are forced to be the Surgeons to our *shatter'd Constitution*, and to the disjoynted Interests of an *Alliance* formerly so Compact and well Cemented. Those Crafty, and Unnatural Foes to *Britain*, will certainly affect Popularity, by exclaiming against a War, at the very Time, that by the *Emissaries in France*, they endeavour to kindle one, in order to have it (as they

they hope) in their Power to Distress His Majesty. If therefore such an Exigence happen ; and the Safety of the King and the Nation require that the Complement of Troops in *Britain and Ireland* be fill'd up, or new Regiments raised, it is hoped that in the disposing of these Posts a due Regard will be had to those Gentlemen who bore all the Frowns of Fortune and of the Enemies to their Virtue : And that these will be sufficiently distinguished from *others*, who either actually deviated from the Dictates of their Honour, and the Example of their Companions, or at least shew'd themselves very *Complaisant and Passive* in Measures destructive to *Welfare, Liberty, and Religion* of their Country : And to the Happy Security of *all these valuable Blessings*, in the Settlement of the House of *HANOVER* on the Throne of Great Britain.

F I N I S.



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